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DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

October 27, 2011

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to Section 5 of Article 63 of the Amendments to the Constitution, I am today signing House Bill 3737, "An Act Making Appropriations for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects," while disapproving one item and returning two sections for amendment.

I am pleased to approve the vast majority of this legislation, which provides key investments in job creating projects across the Commonwealth and programs that spur on-the-job training, continuing education and workforce development. On a limited basis, this bill also funds programs and services in Fiscal Year 2012 that support the state's most vulnerable populations and, in the absence of supplemental funding, would likely see reductions this year. Finally, this bill makes a substantial and responsible deposit of surplus Fiscal Year 2011 resources into the state's rainy day fund, bringing the year-end fund balance to nearly \$1.4 billion – over twice the amount in the fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2010.

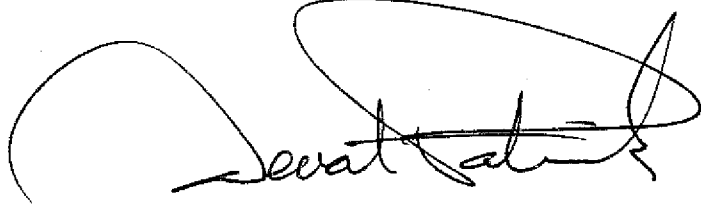
I disapprove item 4000-0500 in Section 2, because existing protections for nursing home residents and a substantial number of empty beds (4,000 according to a recent audit) render this additional spending unnecessary.

Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution, I am also returning for

amendment Sections 8 and 97, for reasons set forth in my two accompanying letters today.

I approve the remainder of this Act.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sevaat Galt", with a large, sweeping loop above the name.